American Women Missionaries and Pioneers Collection

Part 1: Missionaries

The Irene Forsythe Hanson Papers, 1921-1980

Series I

Correspondence
(Incoming and outgoing intermixed)

Folder Description:

Correspondence,
September 16, 1930–December 18, 1930

Box Number:	***Folder Number:***
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Kiaochow –
September 14. 1930

No.

Dearest Mummie:

Your letter of Aug. 22. came just as I was leaving home for here. There is a P.O. here – so I'll hustle off a note – In fact this is quite a city There is even a telegraph office across the street from where we ~~live~~ –

Well, well mummie honey so you are moved + living alone. It makes me sad rather to think of your being there alone. But that I give to the Master's hand + ask in His own loving way He will send you someone – maybe a school girl to live with you. I'll be much happier if I know you've someone with you. I can't think where that blind street of Lincoln is. I've gone up + down that street in my mind + think it must be in that little side street opposite the Christian church, with the Episcopal where Bessie lived that year – where Scotts lived – Is that the place. Your rooms taken then. Too bad the new electric rate is high – now

2) enjoy the stove & heater so much!
Just keep them - anyway - of you say
Catholic neighbors then it must be across
the tracks on the other side of town -
I can't locate you! Glad to know of
your rooms & furnishings & all, The
yard not fixed up will not be so
nice - tho you will likely want
to fix it up!! You dear lover of
beauty - I laughed at your com-
parison with Lot!! I'm sure it won't!
Glad Sam is helping you there with
vines - plum & peaches). must be
hard to dispose of - You never canned
many of them!
Had a surprise last week on
busy day - a car came to door &
didn't wait for answer to door
bell but came back at night.
There were two strange men I'd
never seen before - one introduced
himself as Arthur Clapelle - of
Woodburn - We had quite a
visit - tho I never knew him there
he knew me or of me - It was
nice to see him. Then I was
called over to a meeting & they
went away the next day. He is
on a merchant ship - the Tacoma -

3| That page I wrote this a.m. + now the day is over + prayers with Cook (he prayed for you) + all are finished so I'll write more more to you Nora. I want to get it off 月 soon 日 if I can.

We've had a busy day - but I'll begin from first of our stay. It is rather the most difficult of the places I've been to. The girls came on early - I was held there on business of girl's school + were a bit discouraged I think when I came on Friday. Sat. I wasn't very peppy so didn't go out. Sun. just a few here to church. Well we began our questions etc + we've about found out - The two leaders (deacons) - one who has the money + himself rented a building for them to meet in + the other who has the education etc - are backslidden (we had a very queer interview with the latter + first we haven't seen at all) It ties the hands of all the rest - There's no one to lead a church service so door isn't opened + some go to Lutheran church + others not at all. Well we've these 2 days walked a lot + called + as result we had a service today of 10 outside our group. There is such a nice man + wife Mr. + Mrs. Feng who have taken us around + are so earnest themselves + they're a joy. We made one call yesterday. A man + wife lost 2 sons + they prayed very earnestly for one to live + he died. Then 2nd, grown up, drowned. + they blamed God - that He didn't answer + wouldn't go to church - This has been

4) several years now. We went + my how vehement the lady got!! She at last got talked out + a bit calm + the Holy Spirit surely used Miss Hua to help them. Well, when we left they seemed a bit more softened + promised to come to the church today - one of them - + at last they said they'd lock the door + both come. They seemed so pitifully lonely + bitter - The old gentleman has a very gentle manner - Non-Christians have also taunted them - "That's what you get for believing in Jesus" etc! Well they both came + they seemed so much happier when they left! This place needs prayer oh so much! Mrs. Feng led 4 non-C. women. Then an old Mr. Chang whom we went across the city to see this a.m. came too. He's so blue over the church etc! Then an inquirer whose wife had died also came for the first time - oh! the time is too short + this place in such a condition we can't hope to do much in a few days - but please mummie you pray for the Mr. Chi (Gee) + Li + for the H.S. to do his own work here. That is all that any of us can do - Praise be to the Master this P.M. it didn't rain. We'll have services here for three days + go on Friday to the next place.

This time I am with Miss Fan + Miss Hua. They surely are wonderful consecrated

5] girls + I enjoy them so much. We are quite luxurious with four fair-sized rooms to live in - one a kitchen, one a bed room, a kang + one bed + one a bath room + then one we eat in + is a passage way - unusually swell!!

Had quite a time finding them as the ricksha man ~~[illegible]~~ the wrong place - but leaving it I met Mr + Mrs. Rinell of the Swedish Baptist mission. They, Lutherans, Baptists, Catholic also have work here, not often have we overlapping fields. This tho is a big old city + can stand it I guess - a few more if they aren't more awake than this one. It's a case of sheep without a shepherd + the bucks not leading the flocks! This place is an old interesting place. Many streets are lined with great old stone archways set quite close together some of which have stone animals carved on top - + others have dragons + various designs - all put up in honor of a chaste widow who did not remarry or a young girl whose husband died young + she never married. This idea is Buddhistic ~~early~~ brought in from India originally. They are the same idea as the oblong tablets we see so often out on the country roads. Mrs. Eames was having a time of it.

6) Billy had several infections + high temp for several days + finally Dr. Weisler said take him to the hospital. He was a pretty sick boy - seemed to be settling in his glands just above his leg bones - She wired Mr. E., who had been into Tsing, had gotten his work so he could leave if necessary caught up, to come so the Walters who are just on the way in after the summer + need to get in can go on + not be held here to keep the baby + Moseley at the house - He was much better the morning I left. I ran down to see - Moseley has been ill too!! It is all in raising a family I guess! She's very spunky + brave thru all of it!

Had a dinner, I told you, to pay off all my obligations - Well, it came out nicely - I think all enjoyed it at least! I enjoyed them.

Well honey I'm sleepy so to bed to bed says sleepy head! I know the Master is caring for you. I do trust you're not alone.

Much much love to my own Mumsie dear - I love you so - Your I - Irene

Kiaochow,
Sunday, Sept 23, '30.

No. 月 日

Dearest Mumsie dear:

The cook went into Tsingtao Friday p.m. for an errand & brought out such a handful of mail! Yours of August 15 was in it. Strange this letter was written before the one I answered last but it came later. Your last one told of already having moved & this one of just getting off — a difference of a couple of weeks. This one likely came by Hawaiian Islands & that one straight from Seattle.

Well, it is raining hard. We were planning to leave in the morning but will see how much it rains & how wet it is in the morning. We've had a field day & yet not either — got up later a bit — by time we all got bathed & hair combed etc & ate breakfast it was 9:30 — & Boon talks

2) began coming for service. Our week of running + calling has had some effect anyway. There were about twenty women + girls + 5 men this a.m. + this p.m. more men + not quite so many women but almost, compared with the few of last Sunday. Ordinarily there is no church service so we had to go + tell them all. Mr. + Mrs. Feng are so fine. They've brought a great number of non-Christians. We've had services every p.m. + gone out every a.m. There really seems to be more signs of life this Sun. than before. There are several non-Christians who seem really very interested + earnest. Mrs. Chang did I tell you in the last letter — we met at Mrs. Wang. She's so frank + open — She said, "my heart isn't bad at all, I've no sin, I'm sure I don't" have any future punishment. Well

3) we asked her whether she ever got
angry — "Oh yes all the time". Do you
nudge at others? Oh not much
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but some. What about lying? Yes
Then we explained origin of sin +
all. She surely was just ready
+ the H S had opened her heart wonderfully
She seemed just to drink in everything
+ is so quick. She has memorized
all of "Jesus Loves me" + is surely
wonderfully receptive. Her husband
opposes her + gets angry over it
but she is trying to be patient.
It is a joy to see her. There are
some encouraging things. Mrs. Leung
said [illegible] when they go home she
hears them all singing as they work.
There is such a cute little girl 3 yrs
who loves to come — can sing "Jesus Loves
Me." Two days she's gotten after her
mother to come — "It's time to go to
church — She cried till her mother
came + this a.m. came with another
woman. The church is pretty sick

3/ no minister & two deacons, who have money & ability, just don't do anything & the rest of the members are scattered & feel they can do nothing by themselves. Well, the Master will answer our prayers.

Mrs. Eames wrote that Billy is better. Mr. Eames came to Waltham last Sunday. He is still in the hospital — a sick boy. They were quite alarmed a few days. Poor Coonradts — with all the burden of school — their little boy Harry [1400] suddenly developed appendicitis & he has to be operated. I'm glad I'm out of Tsingtao — the rush of those sweets is enough for me. I'd rather be at my job.

Mummie dear, I am just by faith trusting you to the Master. It

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5 It makes me feel badly to think of you there alone in a strange house & strange neighborhood — but still I know you're not alone with him today you likely have company now a student or teacher — anyway it can't be for awfully long. It makes me want all the more to be able to be home & I mean it makes me all the more eager. Since I have folks, I've been thinking, in Seattle & it would be so much easier to be met there & all I might come through there, save 2 weeks time, because it will well into July or 1st of August by time I'll get there & school starting soon & all will make time short. I can come back by San Francisco & no cut time time, I'll see. I've not decided.

You like the purse? I'm glad, I thought you would. Down at

6) which end of Lincoln St is your house – the highway end ?, or across the tracks?
I don't understand why when the Seattle stocks are paying you do not get 80– per mo I had understood from Leo & all along, that it made about that. Well, will not worry you. I'm sure all will work out well. If I went by Seattle I could see Bertha & Harry & Arnon & all! Well, I'll see –.
I had a woman the week I left to sew & she was just great – She sewed up all my big pile I'd laid up – made new covers for country things – I didn't tell you how new & spick & span & dressed up I was to start out this fall, suitcase a new gray cloth case, new medicine case the old one had one too many wheel borrow bumps, a new victrola record case – present from Mr. Hus – Miss Hus's father, new baskets for provisions

7

guitar case with new kaki cover –
a new grey sack for lantern, a kaki
Sack for wash pan & new picture

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roll covers! New black silk skirt – present
of Miss Jarvis, new blue blouse & cloth slacks –
clean-ups – travel & daily use won't
let the new last long – so my pride
will be short lived – don't worry!
This Mrs. Olen is also covering my
fur garment while I'm away. I'd
bought crepe for 2 pajama suits
which Mrs. Chandler writes she
made beautifully – I have 2
pairs rayon bloomers & one rayon
gown – have not many stockings. She
made me 4 brassieres for this year –
I hardly know what else. I know
I need a rubber lined bag or pocket
for soap & wash cloths & towel
for travel; that might do for a
Christmas gift! I'm frank, eh?
Well, I can't promise about letters

from now on but will do my best. I wanted to write this one to be sure of getting on off from this Post office. Maybe I'll have a day of study tomorrow lying around on the roof. I have to study this year yes, get off 3 credits. Last year 6 so it will be a bit easier that much. I'm doing Genesis & enjoying it much. Reading Bartol's book (?) fully, liked so much as I go along.

Bed time — so I'll close — We had river crabs for supper fried in a kind of bean sauce — awfully good! We buy hot water by the pot across the street for 2 coppers a pot = ½ cent U.S. money — a little boy bare to waist & all sooty from the coal brings it to us — Nitey nite —

Much love — Mummie dearest

Jane

Kangchiachuang
September 26, 1930

No. 月 日

Dearest Mummie!

This is Saturday P.M. & I have gotten awakened from my noon sleep - the girls are still asleep so I'll take a bit of time to write to you. There is a P.O. here so again I can get a letter off to you. We are just about one mile from the railroad this time - we hear the trains very clearly often. Sunday I wrote you - Mon. A.M. it didn't rain but turned quite cool - so we got up about five & had a big hustle packing getting breakfast over & off to the 9:30 train. We'd planned all along on 10:40 but that was the train returning to Tsingtao - so we did hurry - We got off all right & because we were with the rickshas the soldiers at the city gate didn't open all of our luggage. The longer we went the colder it got - till when we got off the breeze was quite cool & we were wearing thin cotton (gingham weight) blouses. The train guards had put on padded garments. I was amusing! The sta-

2'
tion has just been recently built
here & to pay for it all R.R. fares have gone
up. We bargained with men to bring
our luggage over on wheelbarrows
& we walked on - The village was
in sight. Along the road we saw
many small fields of cotton. To
my knowledge it is the first I have
seen growing. The women are very
busy now going every day or so to
gather the fluffy white puffs. At
the village we asked for the Christians
& found them. They had thought
we'd come the day before so two
old ladies both over 60 had walked
over & the men had taken carts to
meet us. The women sat for 3 trains
& got wet coming home. We were
so sorry. Here one to my delight
was one I wrote of at Kaomi that
spring who had been learning income
to the 30-yr old girl who was trying to
reach nirvana. The girl said
after 3 yrs. silence just before she
died - "don't follow me I haven't
found the way" This woman then
heard of Jesus & believed. I was
so glad to see her. What a happy
face she has - & her belief is
so real. She loves to sing & they

3) surely do sing well, & learn quickly.
They showed us three clean empty
rooms & asked if we'd care to live

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in them - Here we are, just back of
the big building built for a School
in which to teach the "Thousand char-
acters" - This is a large courtyard
formerly here there was a temple. It
has been torn down & the idols
~~thrown~~ into one of the many
ponds of brackish water which
surround this place & the place
built up for a school. There is no
teacher here now, so school is not in
session. There was money given
from outside to buy materials but
the work was do by those in town
giving their services. The school desks
furnish us abundant table space
so we're very comfy again. My bed
was so short that we've moved them
L shape & I stretch out on the girls
bed - so were sleeping feet together!
Mrs. Huo first day fixed good
noodles & vegetable for us to eat
It was so nice of her! There are
3 families of christians. Many here do
not believe in idols but have not
turned to God either. There hasn't

4) been much preaching done here the same. Good crowds come at night in the big building. Miss Far & Hua have that service & I have one here for the Christians. We sing & have begun on John tho of course these few days we can't finish. It surely is a joy to be able to talk & have them understand & be able to talk over with them our wonderful gospel.

The medicine box as usual has brought its crowds - not so great as some places but on thru the day twenty - or thirty sometimes more. Most all are old grandmothers with bound feet come carrying a grandson & daughter on their backs. There have been other complaints but mostly babies with diarrhea just one after another. The babies for most part wear a little top waist & no panties. So these cold nights & morning they get cold in the bowels - so there isn't much to do but castor oil & tell them to put on trousers or a belly band. It is mostly old women who bring them as now is a very

5) busy time planting wheat + harvesting beans + cotton. The wives + younger women have heavy work to do so old men + women stay at home to watch gate + house + wrapping its bare legs up in her long blouse which opens at the side they either sit or visit with neighbors. At busiest time these old ladies carrying babies who are free to listen.

We have had some funny things + interesting - Today an old lady (a) some had a little piece of red tag hanging from a string at back of her [illegible]. We asked why + she said it was to prevent taking cold + getting some ailment from the treacherous fall breezes. I put medicine in her eyes + took her that God had charge of those things not a wee bit of red tag! Another old lady had one hanging from a silver hair pin in her hair - but hers is to indicate that she is a leader of one of the many organizations that are so common - this is a idea of 'doing good to achieve merit' or worship of certain false gods.

(6) Excuse that blot - this pen isn't very obedient - One evening we went out for a walk just at the close of day. My the fields are full of folks, how heavy the women's burden is here in this land. The margin of existence is so low - Women with bound feet go great distances to dig grass for the cow, or mule, + come home by a pond + wash it - Go to get dried grass + roots to burn - to save the precious dried corn + kaoliang stocks for winter. That eve. we met an old lady gathering beans. We asked her whether she'd heard of Jesus - She said "Yes. I hear you every night. I believe + I pray". Her bedroom joints the room thru the end wall + open windows she sat on her own bed + heard. She said she believed + we stopped to teach her the blessing for meal times. Well, such a joy it is to be able to live her among them + witness for Him. I'm getting in about 4 hrs study besides my sick + class at night.

Mother shall I bring blankets when I go home? I have one pair I've not used the lavendar - will bring my down cover - N.Y. will be cold. Sheets etc will be about done for by then -

Well, lovey dear I'll close now + send all my love you're so precious to me + I'm getting very eager to see you - -

Much love
Irene.

I was putting iodine on a babies swollen gland + mother said she'd just been to temple + promised vowed a gift of money if her baby got well -

Kang Chia Chuang
October 9, 1930

No. 月 日

Dearest Mumsie!

That much ahead was written at Fang Ling that place + that was as far as I got: now we've come on to another place. Yesterday morning at 5:30 we got up to get ready - so as to be on time + not keep them waiting. These country folks get up so early - + I hate for them to come to get us + have to wait + wait. We hustled + had breakfast + got all packed - oh my! the stuff - the more we go the more luggage we seem to get - of course it was for 6 people - but two wheelbarrows were well loaded + some extras on our wheelbarrow. We didn't want to ride - but walk - However we the christians were taking us from their place to this place + you see for us to walk wasn't treating us at all with courtesy - we'd started out to walk + then they stopped us having fixed a wheelbarrow all up. This time we came on a new kind of a wheelbarrow - one which one man pushed + one pulled.

7 and a little mule with long rope reins pulled also. I felt uncomfortable as the man who pulled was quite old. So we got off once to cross a river + thought we'd walk on - but the old gentleman from Kangchiachuang was very perturbed because we were walking so to save their "face" we got on again.

The old gentleman pulling us was so cordial + his not a Christian but one who is studying + interested. He was so simple + cordial + hospitable. He said he'd like for us to live in his home. He was so cordial + earnest - We went in to see - He was going to go out into another building to sleep + have his wife go to another Kang - we were so grateful for his simple welcome but felt it would be a bit of trouble - Well, we sat down to talk - In her room ~~she~~ had fixed up a table on which were papers folded with characters of various gods names on them (another week gone + this not written but no outgoing mail anyway so I'll write more now etc.)

In front were chopsticks + incense burners with fresh ashes in + on the floor a new prayer mat...

3) We talked a bit about it & she said she didn't believe in them anymore. Later in weeks we went back & she had really taken them out. In her house also was a paper curtain pasted on the wall & we asked her the meaning! She said 9 years ago she was ill & had an old woman (quack witch doctor) come to heal her - she told her to put up that paper curtains for a god'er. At her coming back to get a bull cat to get her, give her a lot of presents - and every year send gifts of 15 steamed rolls (big ones) 1 pair shoes, cloth to bind feet, 3 feet of cloth, matting & cloth strips to bind the bottom of trousers. For 9 years she's given these things. Just deceived by that old woman who uses this as a good way to get a living. Since they've been studying of Jesus this year she didn't send it & the old lady was furious! How pitiful really - these illiterate country women are the most superstitious & helpless - for lack of knowledge of the true God. Well miss Tan take down her paper god - & I'll give her a picture to put up in place

4) We'd not talked long that day when they came again + said the headman of village (call him the mayor) had thought we ought to live in the temple yard so those coming to get medicines etc would be more convenient. We were glad as we'd really had a difficult time trying to live there - We came back here + set to work to get this place in order - a big room with a partition at one end made of long dried corn stalks crossed + newspaper pasted on the two sides. We had to paste on much paper + get all set - all to the entertainment of a big crowd. I've learned to do everything - almost going to toilet even for public inspection. I'm afraid sometimes I'm not as patient sometimes tho' it as I ought to be. At last we'd fixed up + a wee bath space at end of bed which we enclosed by a curtain etc. We've all lived together so much tho we can manage beautifully. I'm so happy to be with them my! they mean so much to me. At last weary we slept - After supper such a crowd came the room across from us where they have school.

5 was overflowing. The mayor was there so happy! He formerly was so opposed to christianity but not seems quite interested & is here all of the time. He has asked for a copy of prayer for blessing & evening. He has been most polite & careful in everything - our street window (high) was sealed with paper but later he saw it torn & asked us whether someone had torn it or we'd done it, he feared some men or children perhaps had wanted to look in. It is funny sometimes what a little thing impresses one. His son came in with a group of children to see the kerosene stove & while cook was out pumped air with the little rod & over came the millet soup & steamer on the floor - He was so scared - His father came to ask about it & got here just as the cook was cleaning it up. He said later that I wasn't angry & offered if he was burned to treat him was proof to him that what we preached was right. The next a.m. here he came with millet, & beans & sweet potatoes with greatest apologies & ceremony!!
Mon. Eve. We had meeting at the temple gate & crowds - fully 5 hundred sometimes squat to listen - So quiet they are & reverent during prayer! Unusually so for a

of non-christian audience! I'm the first foreign woman to come here. There was a Chinese evangelist here some years ago but no results. Perhaps now the seed is ripe. There have been so many eager + not a few bought books + daily we have the classes + there is a large number of women who come – off + on as they have time – the women do such heavy work here for the harvest – besides all of the house work + the endless babies to carry around + look after –

Monday! – Sounds of merriment of blare of trumpets come from the street + two sedan chairs decorated with bright colors have stopped at the house to let the new bride get out + be led into the house of the groom. That ceremony we also saw at Kang Chia Chuang. She is led in behind the groom by a couple of women all dressed in silk with fancy hair ornaments. They use red pieces of woolen cloth on which she must walk – her feet can only touch red for good luck on that day – The pieces are alternately put down + then thrown over the bride's head to be put on down in front – on + on

J] till she reaches the courtyard where on a table are spread plates of bread, perhaps a fish, a pig's head

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and chicken + incense burners + candles). Before it is a red mat. The bride + groom stand on it + head of house – bows to ground three times with head to ground 3 times with each in worshipping heaven + earth. Then the bride is led over the doorstep – over which a saddle has been placed – See a saddle is an "an" the same sound as ping an or "peace". The saddle has a new cover over it + has coins sewed at the corners – to insure wealth, + a hammer has been carried from the groom's home in the sedan chair to the bride's + back again to groom's Fu is same sound for hammer + blessings) – After worship of heaven + earth they enter + bride sits on the newly fixed K'ang in the newly papered + decorated room which has the bride's furniture in it. Then all are free to go in + look see –, as they are free to eat any time during ceremony. It seemed so much less solemn than ours because of the motley crowd that filled the rooms –.

8) At Kang chia chuang an unmarried girl 31 — unusual for most of girls are married - no other way - came to the rooms + said, "I want to hear your way. If it is true I want to follow it - I too am an unmarried girl - I have given up all - my home - body + all to seek the right way". She burned incense three times a day to God (our God) they call Him "Tien Loo Yeh" "Old Father in Heaven" + at night put out a cup of tea for him but she say the more I seek the darker my heart. She could read - this too is unusual, for girls, outside of Christian families especially of that age - She comprehended instantly what we told her + she took one of Mrs. Mock's "John". She was so eager her face just lighted up when we told her the story. She reluctantly left - but we went to her village one day to find her. She has an unhappy lot - While her mother lived - she was free at home to - purpose her soul + seek God — but at her mother's death the

9) estate was divided between sons - so she's left practically at their mercy + evidently an unsympathetic

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mercy - So she has to work very hard - in order to pay for food + clothes - That with her grief added to her heart's [illegible]. That village had a number of unmarried girls who are hoping by - - - -

Must finish later - I'll hurry + close this. A man going to Kaami + is waiting for this so I won't waste any time. I know you'd rather have this much sooner.

A busy day - Chinese class + sick + class for church this eve.

Bye - Love,

Irene

fixed so we had a good days work getting all settled --. That night a big crowd came + overflowed the school room so we decided next night for the street. We live in its temple courtyard next to us - 5 steps is a room full of idols. The head man of village has recently been very opposed to Christianity - but my now he is so in favor has been so careful to see that all are treating us politely etc! His little boy in curiosity in tinkering with stove one eve. spilled all millet soup - His father came at once + we plead for boy + offered to treat him if he was burned. Next day father came with gifts of sweet potatoes millet + beans. He told another he was greatly moved - we not only weren't angry but offered to treat him if burned - he says - "that's unusual + true" - He went this a.m. with others to preach at a school house not far away, -- Will hurry this off so you'll not worry - Got two letters unanswered - much love to all. Enjoyed Mrs. Maujin's letter -
Much love dears - Irene -

CARTE POSTALE CHINE.

中華民國郵政明信片

REPUBLIC OF CHINA POSTAGE

WOODBURN NOV 3 4 PM 1930

KAOMI

Mrs. E. J. Forsythe
~~548 [illegible] Street~~
~~Woodburn~~
~~Oregon~~ Jefferson
U.S.A.
Oregon City, Ore.

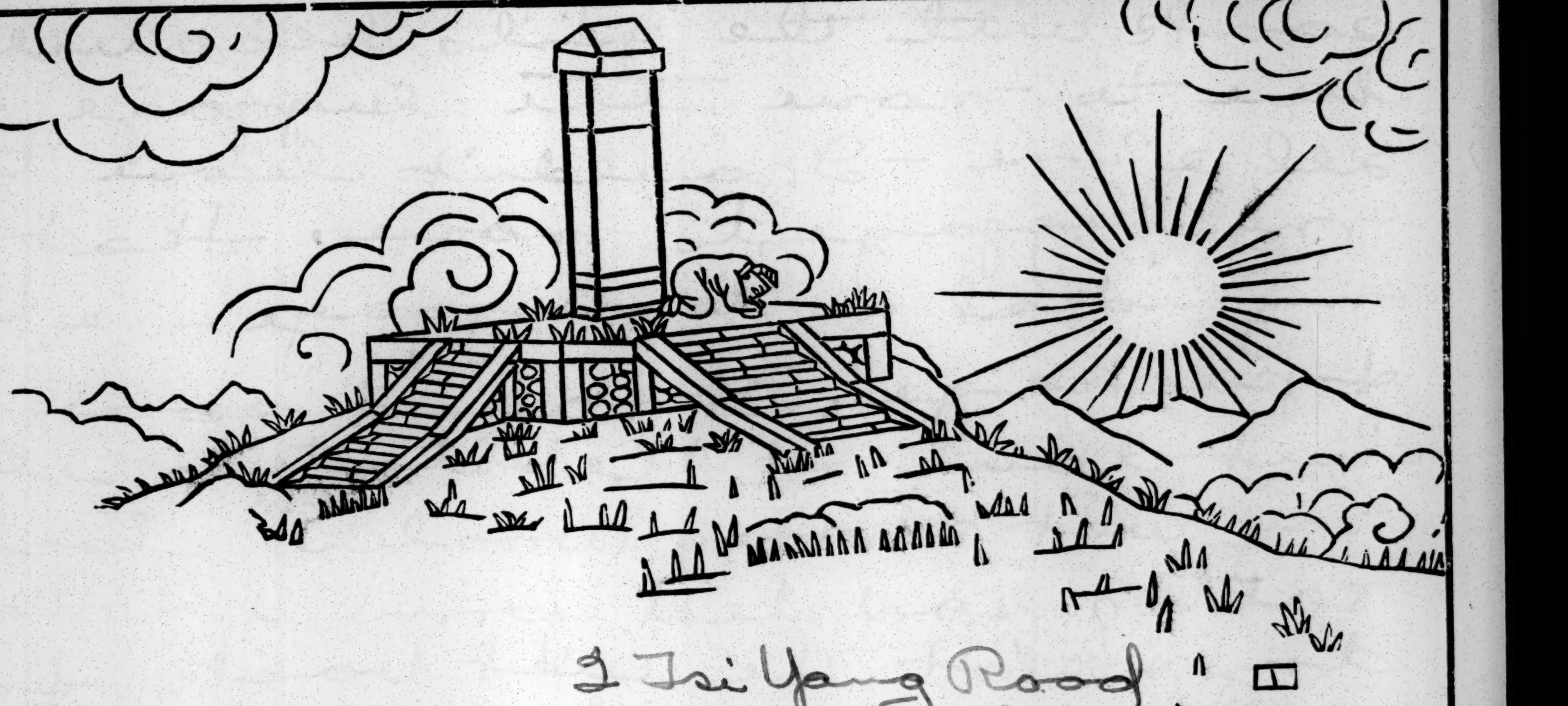
October 14, 1930
Fang Ting

Dearest Mumsie!

How the days fly + how full they are + still I seem to do very little — I haven't gotten your letter written have a page done but can't wait to finish it. No post office here but there is a man going into Kaomi tomorrow who will take this. My castor oil is all used so fortunately he can send me some.

We came here Sat. + got here just before noon. The rooms weren't

Altar of Sacrifice on Tai Shan



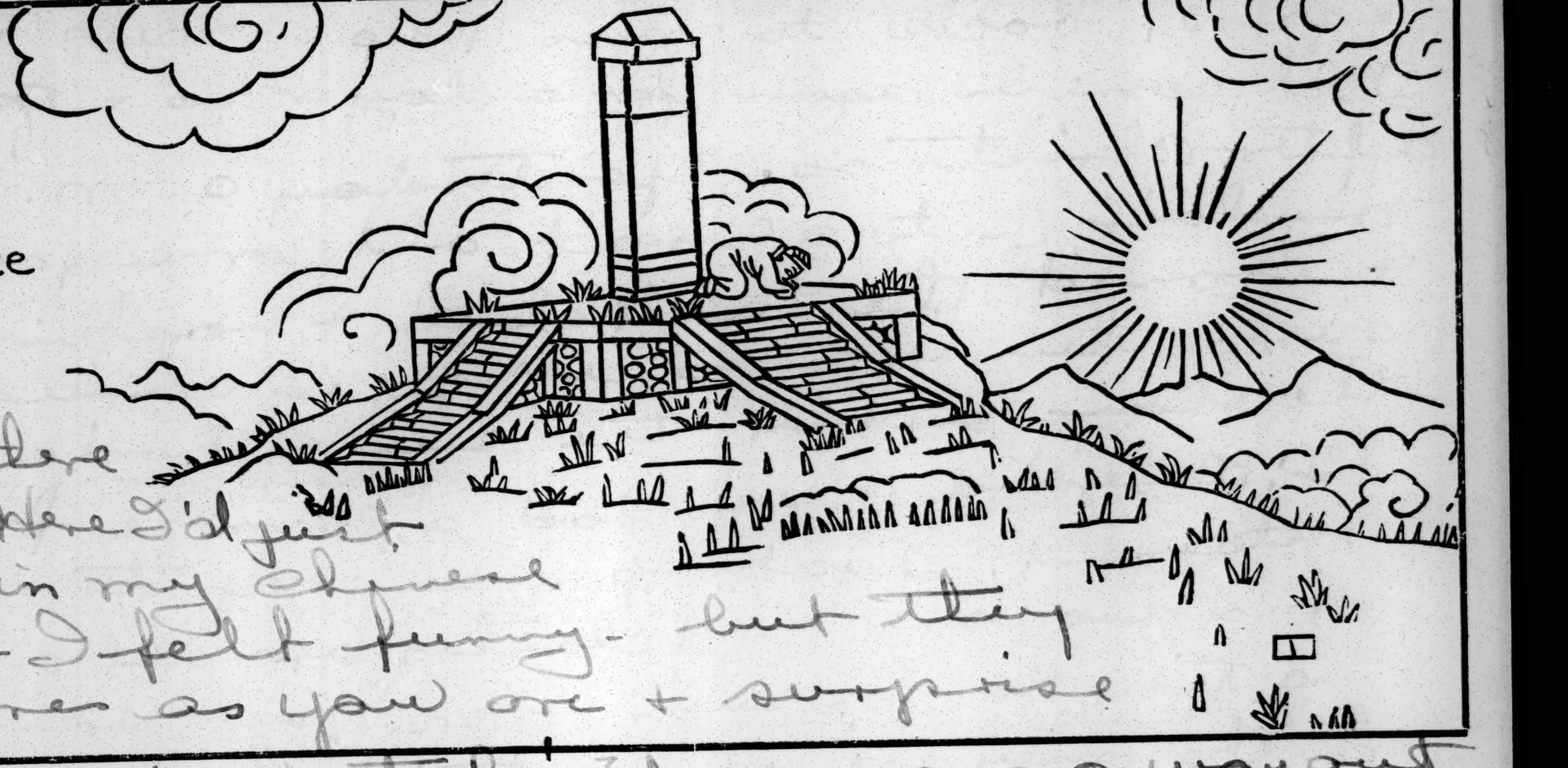
1 Tsi Yang Road
Tsingtao, Shantung
October 26, 1930

Dearest mumsie Mine;

Well, I'm back home for a few days just & unexpectedly. I was not at all thinking of coming in at this time but the day as we were just getting accounts straight - the cook & I - in the temple filled with its warlike gods & idols I saw Mr. Coonradt's country man come in. He had two letters from the station asking me to go in at once because the China Secretary of the Board, Dr. J. Scott was to arrive Thurs for three days visit. It was just as we were planning to move to another place. In fact we had been detained by rain or we'd not have been there at all. We were to leave the next a.m. & here in the night it rained & how it rained again. Cook came early saying - no chance of going but by eight o'clock it seemed better. Tho raining looking, the Christians hustled a

21 mule for me + off I went leaving the cook with the girls because they'd have to move the luggage + rickshaws all alone - I couldn't leave them with my luggage to move. That time I went my ideal as to luggage - a brief case + package. It rained some on the way but down at the station I took off my wet shoes, woolen stockings + cotton padded garment - changed to dry + sent the wet back for the cook to dry out - We waited in the station Mr. C's cook bought persimmons - oh they were lovely 20 for 10¢. The man from an inn brought us food - noodles fairly good - 5¢ a bowl - just as I was standing eating the train came so had to hustle + swallow fast + get on - Got on to wait ½ hr!! while a tie was being replaced! Then it was one o'clock - This was a freight + pass. train - slow - got to Tsingtao at seven + tired from sitting walked home. Into Coonradt's just to meet the whole party going out to dinner at the Grand Hotel where the party was staying. Dr. Scott's sister with him must be wealthy - she is Amer. Vice-Pres of Y.W.C.A. - Dr. Scott's daughter traveling with her I expect at her expense She spurned the very nice pension - + wanted finest room to be had - She paid for it allright! They invited us

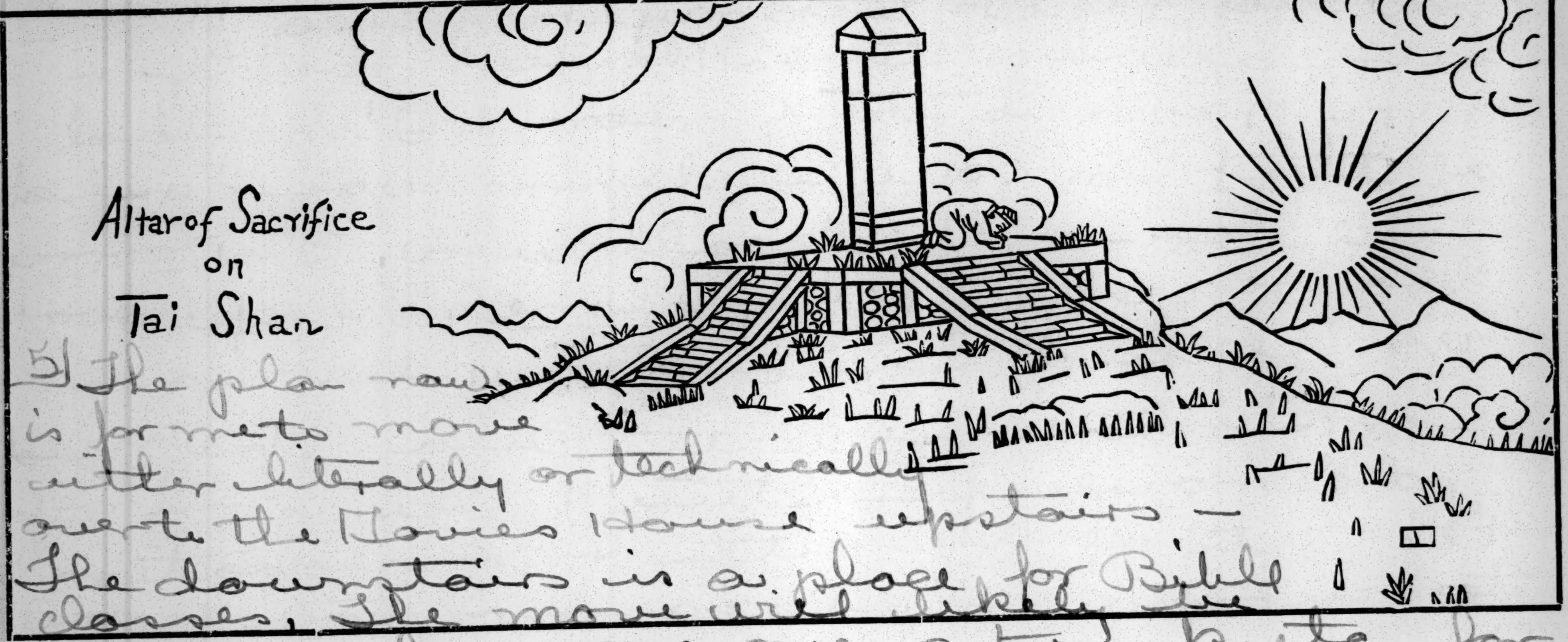
3



Altar of Sacrifice on Tai Shan

all to go there
for supper. Here I'd just
arrived + in my Chinese
clothes -- I felt funny - but they
said come as you are + surprise
the ladies at Hotel; There was no way out
but to go - besides my padded garment
was new + rather pretty color + I just de-
cided I'd let them see what we were
like anyway. I'd come an all day's
trip to see them so I'd just go. They were
quite surprised + interested. Mrs. Cushman
asked me so many questions -----
I was so surprised next a.m. when we went
to take them to train - (shortened the visit -
~~fortunately~~ I got in or else all would have
been in vain --) she said to me - I was
wearing my blue coat - five years old -, "My!
How dressy you look." I nearly fell over -
too non-plussed to answer. I presume she
was comparing me with impression of the
night before - surely not that I was
dressed up. - I felt seedy beside her -
Well anyway - that's what happened.
We even had business meetings etc +

4) will still have tomorrow + then Tues a.m. I go again, back to Miss Hsu + Miss Tan + then I'll come in again for a day or so + go until after Christmas. Yesterday a.m. I washed my hair (its almost all coming out, awful) + ironed the table cloth + napkins I'd left over - then was so weary, I curled up in the chair out in the sun + had a nap. At 12:30 Lydia Reid had a group for Chinese food at a restaurant. I got up from nap to dress - at "mid" seasons my clothes are all a mess + I've no time to fix up - Mrs. Noyes dress, I call it, is the only one respectable now. Well I put it on + stockings to match + horrors! all the runs! So I thought of the new golden brown you sent me. The color is nice + they are beautiful hose just so beautifully fitted + all. Thank you. Today again I'm wearing them. After lunch - which I think doesn't equal my cook's food - doesn't that sound horror - skat!! - I came home + till late last night tried to fill out a questionaire from Board on salary sufficiency - working out costs + expenses. I've done better than I'd have expected of me at keeping accounts but even so haven't done very well! Anyway that's done - + a letter or two - I just want to write you. Have to go soon out to see Miss Hsu's mother before church at five - so will have to stop soon. Lydia + another girl are coming for waffles this evening! I'm boarding with Mrs. C. for these few days. I enjoy it too.



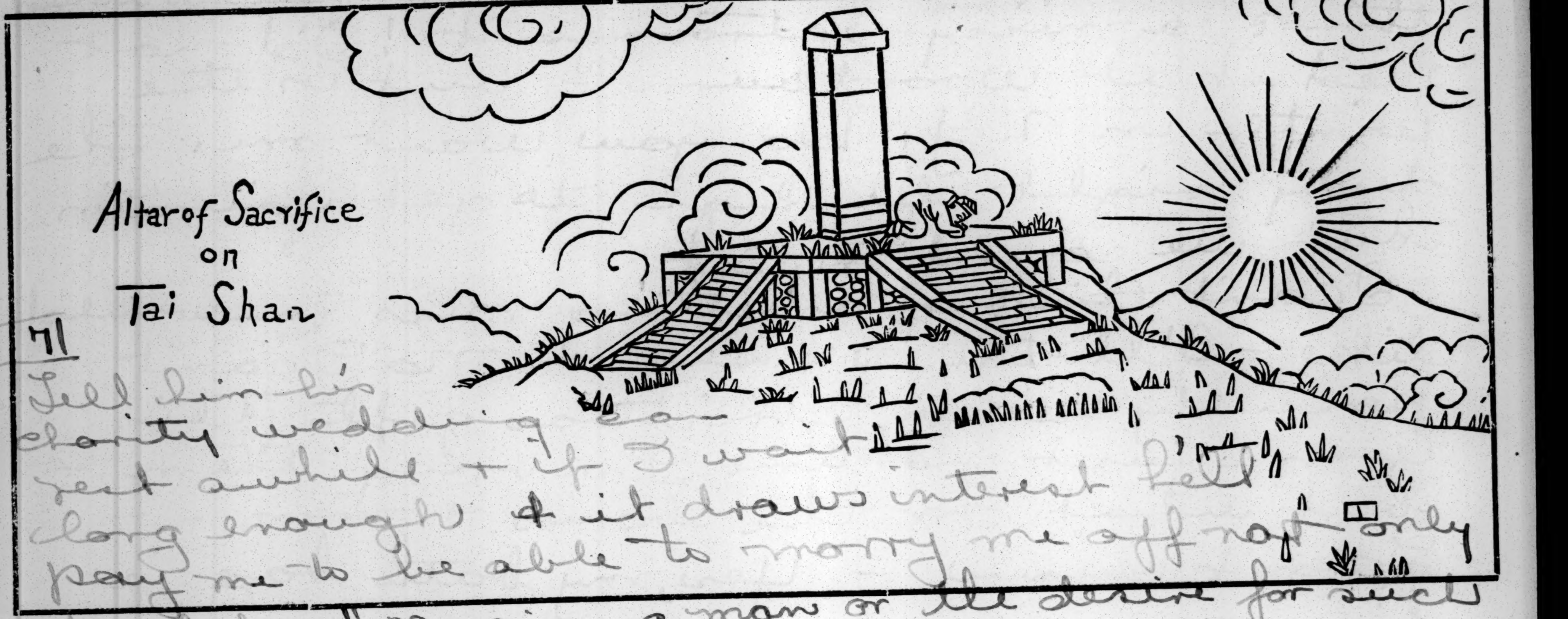
5) The plan now is for me to move either literally or technically over to the Davies House upstairs — The downstairs is a place for Bible classes. The move will likely be in name only. move over a trunk etc for I've no time & less inclination to move; It will give me a storeroom however. —

Have a pile of letters from you three on my return. Aug 10. I had in my purse unanswered. How much did you make on us? I gave Miss H. & Fan each a cake of soap & they like it so much said to thank you! That was a lovely present! Glad to hear from Jeanette Super.

The letter from Eula & yours re your illness was over at Mr. C. because registered he held it for me & I read it last of all. Here I read of your improving & diet & was so puzzled & felt so badly & then the last one at meeting they gave me that letter so then I understood.

Mumsie precious, it is so hard to think of your being alone & getting sick) — That is the hardest part of all — & it makes me feel so badly — It is part of our sacrifice dear for Him. If it were not

6) that I can feel so I couldn't bear it! You did right to go right to Eula!! Be sure always to. I'll feel better + Mrs. Mayes is there near + I'm glad of that in case of illness you could call her - + she'd call Eula. I'm sorry too re your being alone, I hope soon you'll find someone or when your work is done go with Eula. You need not move furniture! This is one of the tests of my faith + consecration to put you in God's hands + trust you to Him + not worry! But He will be near you + close. I'm glad you're not afraid!! He will guide + protect I know. I'm looking forward even more than ever to being with you. It's nice that Bud + Bessie are near + they run in often! nice you had the Bethel dinner! Please give Mrs. N. + Blew's my love! Mother dear, make friends with your neighbors. They won't hurt you - + I'm sure many are very nice + you'll be happier! What sort of arrangement have the Methodists made. Are they Presbyterians or is it a union? Wait dear + see it may work well after all. Hope so since it is to be. Tell Roy there is a police-man on every corner + good looking ones too!! + some that know me -- -- --! Tell Roy he's persistant - in hopes my sense of humour will get the point this time!



71
Tell him his
charity wedding can
rest awhile + if I wait
long enough & it draws interest he'll
pay me to be able to marry me off not only
do it free!! No sir – a man or the desire for such
an appendage is the least of my desires –
Did hinder my work – – ha! –
Bays are doing famously! I'm glad. Eula's
10.00 came + I'll see about her things I think
I can find something – if not she in
Shanghai. Hope Bessie's breaking out is
well too – + yours mumsie dear, no. I have
the seminary catalogue.
The printed letters came + are so fine + a note
from Mr. M. acknowledging receipt of $5 but
asking me not to send him money. Did
he return it? Billy Eames is well + they've
gone on back home. Hope Winfield's mumps
are over. Tekie has a little baby girl,
Jean Alice. So funny I first read your word
Klim – one divided on two lines as Klim a prepared
milk but I didn't think it was Japanese
preparation! I see today it is Kimono!
If we go to N.Y. it will be cold. I hear
Siberian furs are 1/3 of last years price
some one got a seal for $110.00 mex. $40 gold

8) I wonder if I'd get one whether folks would think a missy - extravagant! I'd not need it at Woodburn - but in the winter in N. Y. Do you want one. The duty might be high to get yours in but we could try it.

I can't think of anything Miss Jan would like - I'll think & see - No I can't possibly sent Christmas gifts this year - just no time I'm bring them - but what for the boys & me - I don't know - Yes, my bath bag is fine; grand.

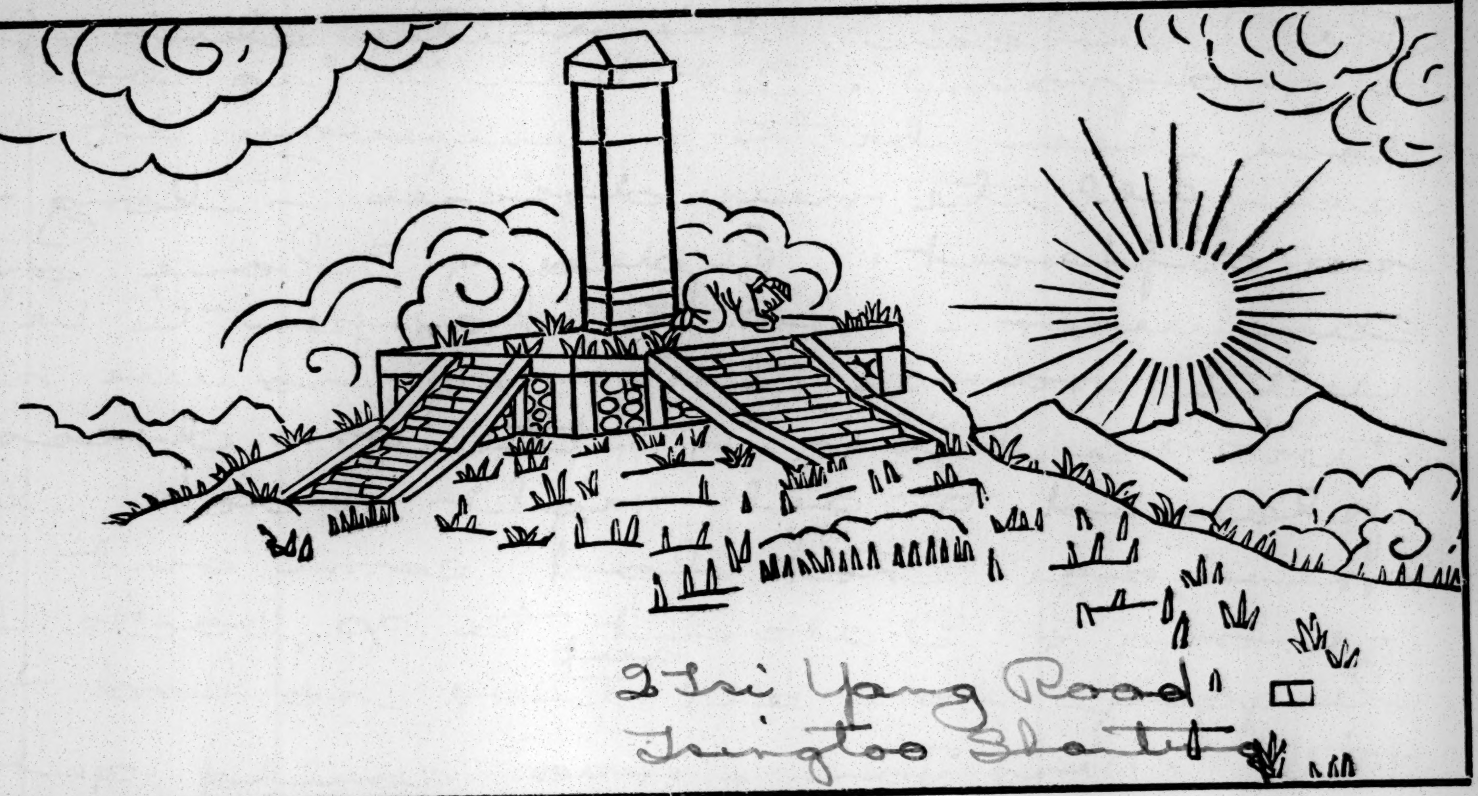
Must go - close later -

Well, I saw Mr. & Mrs. Huo & they were so glad to see me. Went in the bus for 8 X very fast & back in time for church. There was a difference from my usual Sunday clinic services - I enjoyed it. He spoke on Christ is all, and in all. Lydia & Clara came up for waffle supper & we had a big visit. It is 8:30 now & I must get to bed - it will be a big day tomorrow - get some errands done, mission meeting & evening I want to go with Lydia to the dyspensary to watch her treatments.

I pray, mumsie dearest, that you are well now & all coming nicely. As I ironed yesterday I wondered whether you'd not like me to bring the linen napkins home that you sent me. I must ask as I think of it.

Nity nite my own sweetest mumsie dear. You're so precious to me & I pray you're well now - As ever - Irene

Altar of Sacrifice
on
Tai Shan



2 Tsi Yang Road
Tsingtao Shantung

December 9. 1930

Precious mumsie!

You'll be surprised to get a letter addressed to you from Tsingtao. I came in the night before Thanksgiving and have been in since. The weather got pretty cold - we needed our fur garments so we came in. A hard long ride in cart for 90 li to the railroad. It was from 7 a.m. till five - much dirtier than usual - at least I felt so. Got here about nine & Mrs. C. was so nice - fixed some cocoa & I had a bath water from her stove in the big tub & I did appreciate it!! My! Then with the pile of your letters & many others of over a month's time I just revelled till pretty late. Thanksgiving - my first in the station was nice. There was a church service attended by many nationalities at the German club. It was very nice - This Thanksgiving seemed like old times of coming from school home to help with a big dinner. Mrs. Chandler had all of the station here so with kiddies included it was a long table - Afternoon the

21) girls Miss Tan + Hwa came + then at night
The American University club had a dinner
+ program. It wasn't so bad but could
have been better. Anyway it was nice to
see all the new dresses - long + full +
so different. Lydia + I have one dress we
can wear - both happen to be brown -
with orange trimming so we say we'll go
twins all year in the one dress. We'd
planned to get right back but here a
message that had come out to me was
wrong + I wasn't to go back but my
luggage was all there so had to wait
till Miss Tan + Hwa could get out + send
it on to my place with Miss Shaw + Wang
That to Friday at earliest - then there
was to a conference with chairman of
Executive committee ^Monday so I must wait for
that. Today Tuesday I've been getting
off + tomorrow I go I hope. There is
another meeting Dec 16. a few days that
I'll come in for - have to - so it is less
than a week before I come back but
this way communications are open - bus
line. Seven or eight hours - I just won't
be kept setting in here for meetings if
I can help it. This week was easier
to wait some because I've had to
prepare a message for Sunday to give
so for 3 days really four I just bored
on its preparation + was so weary by
night that I just crawled in early.
It was in O.T. Ezekiel + so much was
new. The English outline I had to work up -

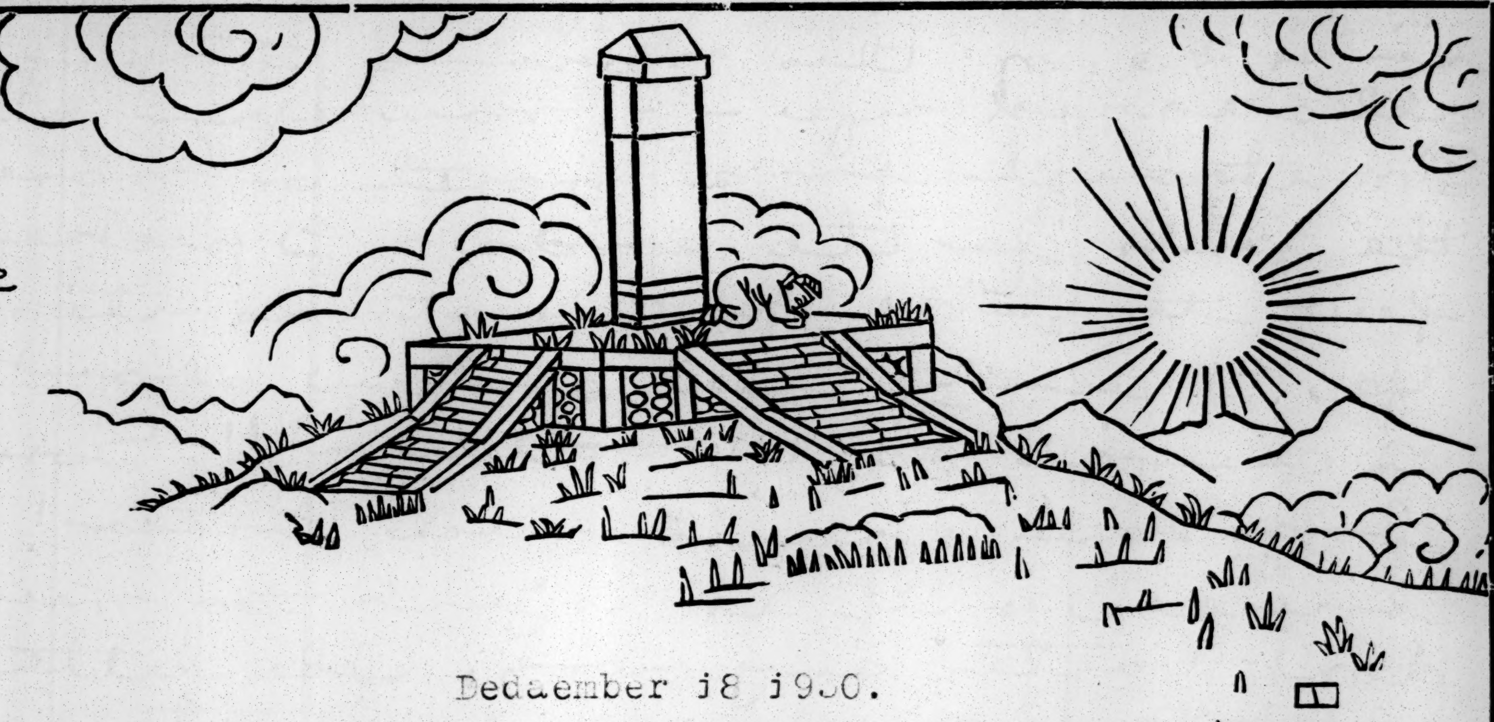
3) with a lot of new things to learn + giving
5. speeches before city audiences is much more
particular + just different. At least it kept
me satisfied about staying over. I'd never
had time in the country to get its rest,
The first few days I was so sleepy I just
slept hours + hours + had a good rest-up.
Folks are so nice to me when I come in.
Mrs. Lowe of Baptist mission had a dinner
party" in five of us. Was at Amspach's,
Lutherans and Ruth Tewksbury's. It has
been awfully full + busy - counting time
I've had to sleep, too!
We've had a fine conference with our
mission executive. I feel we've reached a new
understanding + unity on the big problems
that face about the school + many
things. It was worth the days' stay for the
inspiration of it all. News has come since
Dr. Scott's visit that he gave our lots
[illegible]
go forward because what's built will they
have appropriated into by for a double house
presumably down stairs for Tewksbury's
+ upstairs two single ladies separate
adjoining flats. It will be wonderful to be with
Ruth T. She is so wonderful. It will be
nice to have a place of my own in
many ways but the it really is very
temporary. It can't be completed before
I leave on furlough - I'll be able to

to go in or return. Ruth was talking about it in connection with your coming — that it would be so much more possible — to be just upstairs from her. They go home the year after I do, so it would be two years before we'll live there together. Well, it surely is a pleasing prospect for them! I'm glad I need not move over to the Davies house as I feared. This way I can wait until June + make one move do for all."

Today I spent about six hrs — on a letter for Board — I sent it first to Roseburg for them to see + then they are to send it on. I told them if they didn't want it to mail it to you. So don't be surprised if it comes to you. I was just thinking about getting off reports one a.m. + to have done the last ones. Didn't they do them beautifully. I expect you'd better give him the paper money. I was delighted + also put the two together + off! That was a couple days work — put Christmas cards inside. Was glad to get them off + to get them so promptly. Thank you mummie dear for all of your help. It is just so wonderful I know I'd never get them off at all myself. I wrote Rev. Blew + answered his nice letter. The cards too came. Thank the girls who did them for me, please, + there's so much in your letters. I'll take them + hope to get them answered properly. 10:30 now + I must get out early — just this note — full of love to you sweet + to give you a bit of a letter — Love + a big hug — Your Irene —

Ruth + I got one each for you

Altar of Sacrifice
on
Tai Shan



Dedaember j8 j9J0.

Dearest moyher :

Tpu will be surorised to gey a typewritten letter from me abt pressan not so mjch either when ypu see the kind of typjng I do I see abouy a dozen mis-yakes already. The occasion for this attempt is rhat I have just paid put a goodly sum to get this little piece of extra luggage repaired anf I guess I better use it . See I am still too much of a Jew to let it go. Have contem-plated seriously sellinf it assI just do noy use it at all and will not carry it to the country ; my stuff is already too much and besides I'd haveno time at all to use it . Well with a new rollr, ribbon and cleaned up the man said I could sell it for more than I paid for it but to ever buy anotyre yaht too is a question . So I guess the latest is to keep it It will be good for cshoo next year and perhaps I might find time to learn to use it. It seems to be a taken- for - granted missjonary qualification. to be able to at least use the hunt and pick system.

You will be surprised to learn that I am in town again, or perhaps I told ypu of the necessary return for a meetjng of the local council , foreigners and Chinese. There were some pretty bog problems to come up so I had to come I sincerely hope that I will not need to do so again for it is such a breaki on the work.

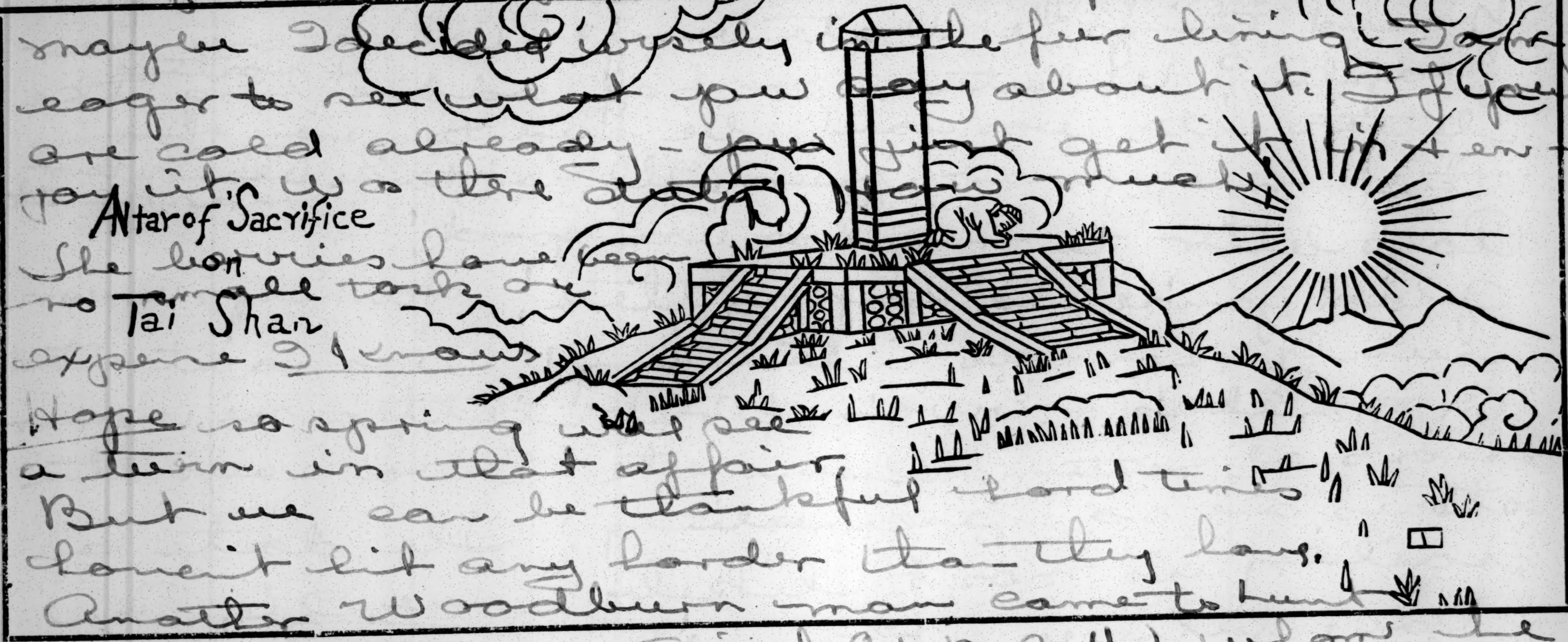
Please add to names list : Mr. Harold Siqueland
641 2nd Ave. No.
This must be on. never mind Glascow, Mont.

Is Janey Trace on that list? New Concord, Ohio.

Dear mother! Dec 20. Well, isn't that one awful attempt at typing + how it wrinkled the paper! I'll leave it in the letter just to prove I've tried to write before – & see how funny that attempt is!! Guess I'd better sell it + keep on with my old scribble, – Have your letters a pile since Oct 9 before me. I'll scan them + answer them first. I have all of my reports Feb – to June off now too + that ends that pile – along with a few Xmas cards + just a pile

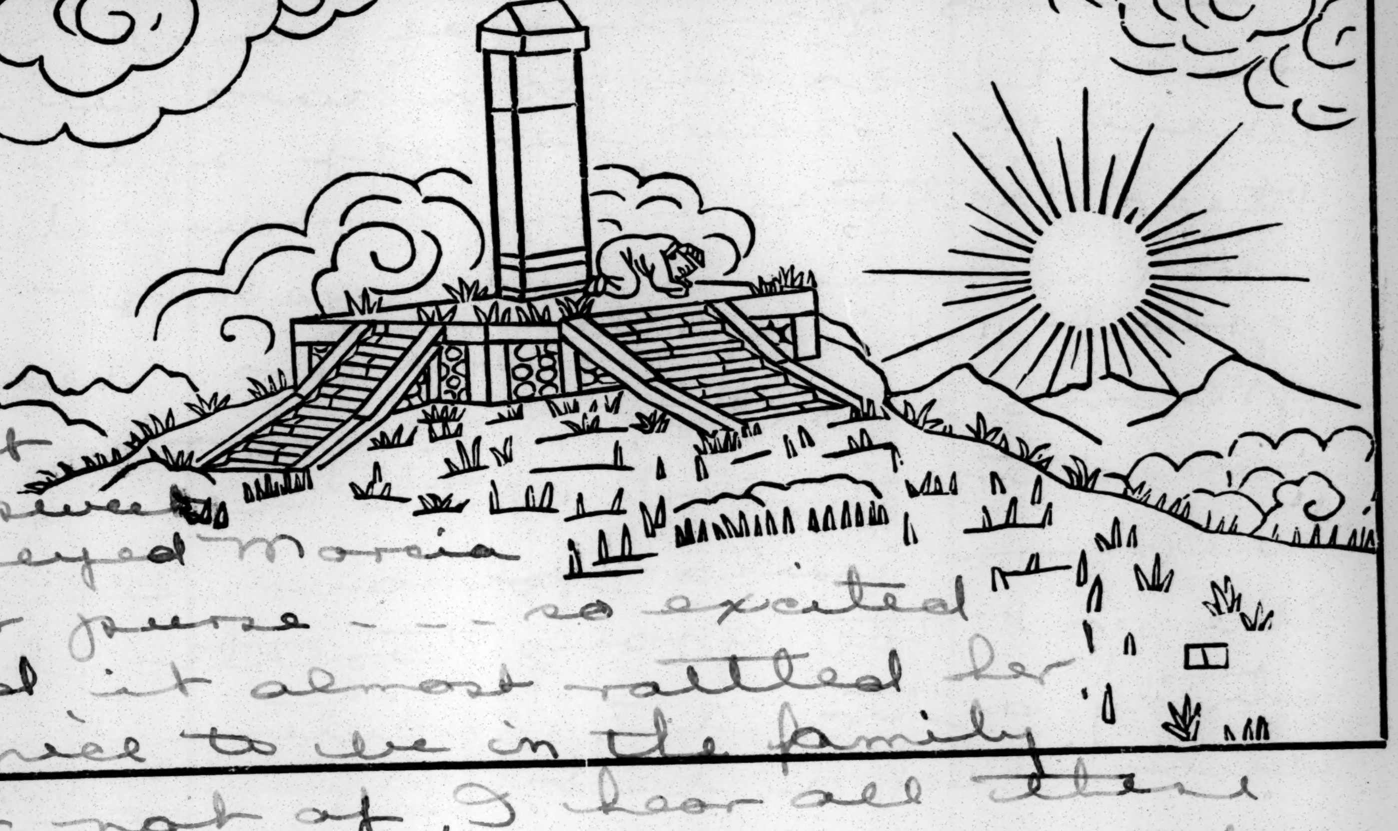
21 of an assorted lot of letters - Have sat here since 8 a.m. this morning trying to get all cleared up - - now your letter off + I'm through for a month or more. Thank the girls for the cards - I picked out a few to take for Christmas this time.
Yes. I surely feel as you about the sales in church at Woodburn!! Sorry the slower bags have caused such bother! no no bundles + if it is just too much trouble don't bother anymore. The letter + pictures sent to Ray labeled for those churches is a copy of what I sent to Board. Mrs. Chandler kindly offered to copy it. I gave her one + picture set + so had the extras sent to Roseburg, Moody, your Board, Mother, your return to girls is just up to you. You mustn't feel that if one chick happens to disagree or not sympathize you blame yourself. Not that there is who doesn't - but in principle - You're "mother" + we're only the kids + you're boss - we're only to help not to sit in judgment about what you do.
I wrote Board this a.m. to send you $20.00 - to replace the $5 that you sent Mr. Miller + the $15.00 is just for whatever you need. maybe get fur put in your coat etc. You must keep it + use it. I was just shocked to know really the state of your income. I don't see how you manage. Be sure

3] to get what you need! Since your letter I feel



maybe I decided wisely in the fur lining - I am eager to see what you say about it. If you are cold already - you just get it & enjoy it. Was there stuff you wished?
The lorries have been no small task or expense I know.
Hope so spring will see a turn in that affair.
But we can be thankful hard times haven't hit any harder than they have.
Another Woodburn man came to hunt me up but Mr. Smith (Y.M.C.A.) whom he asked thought I was away - Couldn't have been Chapelle again tho as your letter just said he was to arrive there. Bless Margie's dear - wanting me to teach her the Chinese language. Nothing like ignorance of youth! I'll have such fun teaching her some tho! The twins too!! Tell her I return the hugs & kisses!! & add some more.
I'll see about the amber - it is from Korea - I'll just have to write to a store & trust to luck! Martha Wylie is in N.Y. in school this year & she wrote for me to measure my head & she'd sent me a going home hat - She's one peach! That will help lots as I can't get one here to get to Shanghai either - so she'll send that - So good to have a visit with Lea - Well, honey dear the elections altho do not just fit into ones plans - can't be helped but do not trouble over it - It will be all right. How much board do you pay? I feel you should pay

4] + keep up your store. That's interesting –
Moved things to Waterbury's – where are her
people? Whatever cost of addressing the + postage
letters, etc. was, you be sure to pay from
that money not yours. I'll not take blankets or [illegible]
Ray's letter to members was good!
Glad you're so happy there! Family reunion
surely sounds interesting!! Was so interested
in Marella's + Erva's first letters re impressions of return home etc. Erva says the
stories are so fascinating! The date of
sailing is most likely June 26. Can
you believe it? I can't. I'm waiting to
hear from Stella or Margaret Winslett
to see about time they've set – but
I think I'll decide on it – as July 10
is the next one she mentioned + it
would make it late in August to
arrive –. So mumsie precious you
can be counting on time to Seattle
from Shanghai – Mumsie, your hair thin
+ a new hair comb – you won't look natural
Ah don't cut it!! Mine is a speck better
now – comes out some tho still but not
as a few months ago. The Coonradt's are
so excited today – Their daughter, Jane
is coming home for Christmas after her
first term away from home. Lydia C.
will be here in the morning too so it
is beginning to feel like Christmas in
the air – So glad I'll be able to see them.
Mrs. Chandler is just off with kiddies to
do their Christmas shopping – Charles saved
$3 in year so she gave him ~~three~~ more so he's

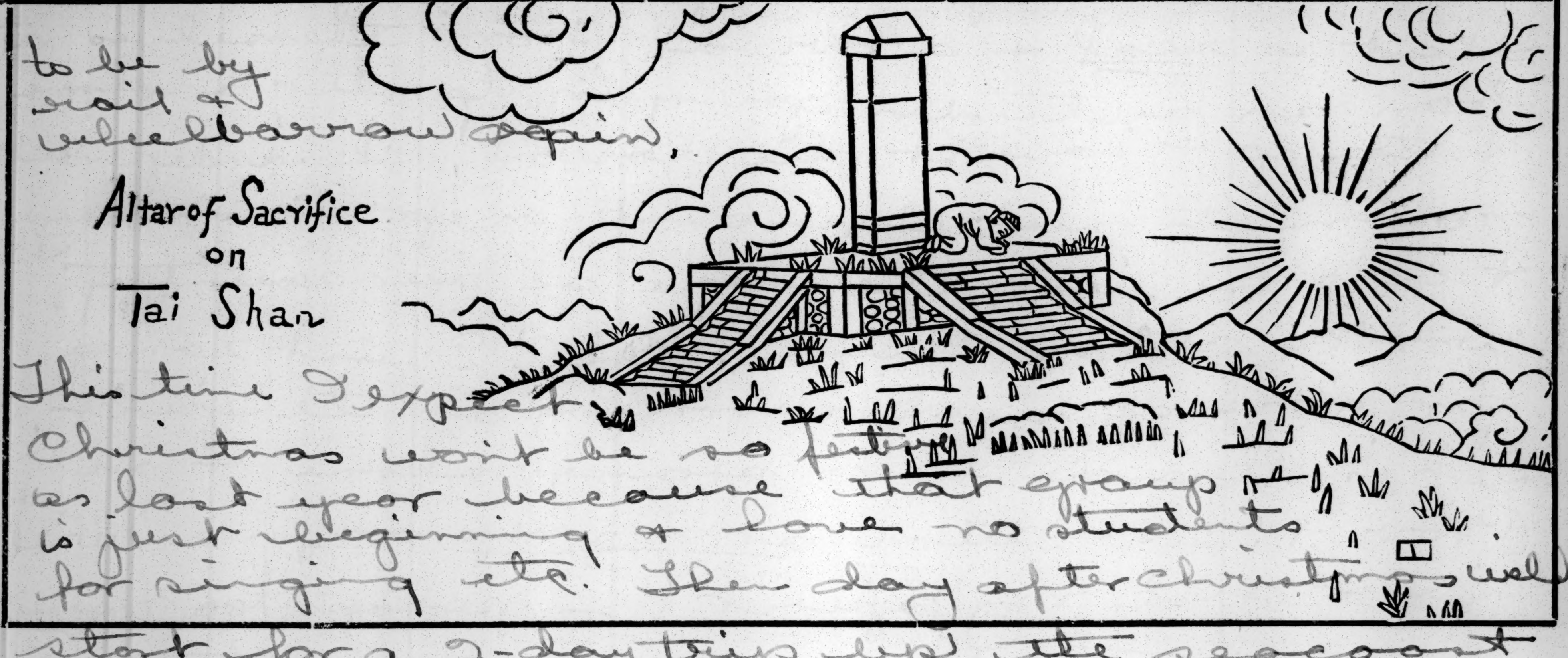


Altar of Sacrifice
on
Tai Shan

5) a real plutocrat
with six, + sweet
little brown eyed Marcia
with $2 in her purse --- so excited
Mrs. C. said it almost rattled her.
Well, it's nice to be in the family
as I am but not of. I hear all these
things but too have my own separate-
Mumsie, so glad you're well again +
gaining. I got my coat + it is surely warm!
Since you have the lining I can be content
otherwise I'd not be happy - thinking of
your cold. Glad aunt Glennie is better! +
Hope Clyde will be having vacation while
I'm home. Tell him I said he must!

After your note that last one I went
to Mao Chia Ling. There in one week in
the Christian group were two weddings,
one engagement and birth of a son so
you may imagine the festivities. I got there
for a wedding feast and for the feast
on the third day of the wedding or that day the bride + groom
returns to the bride's home where she + he
are feasted + she takes back presents of
food (steamed white bread) or anything nice for her husband's
family. It must include packages of
cakes to give the groom for when friends

6) come in to see + have fun (ex our shivaree but no pounding of pans!) She must take out the cakes to share with them. Well we saw her off after I'd taken their pictures + she arrayed in a pink silk blouse + silk skirt sitting with great dignity on the mule as she was lead by the groom's brother. The groom must wait + go later - not with her - a proverb says "a groom who follows behind is a rabbit". We got the group together for worship + study after the excitement of these events subsided a bit. The nights, because of a recent raid by soldiers who got a number of local bandits, were just by dark. still + streets deserted so that we couldn't have the night meetings as the first time but Miss Chow + Wang had been doing fine work in the homes where they live with the non-christian women folk - I'll go again in the morning there. I didn't say tho why I came in - Had to return for council of local leaders + am glad too that I did now tho it was a long trip in. Fortunately we made the fast train - so we got home about 2:30. It was so close. When we got there the train was in + it just waited for us to get on + we were off. The bus lines we often use are being taken over by the government but the deal is not yet settled so the trip will tomorrow have



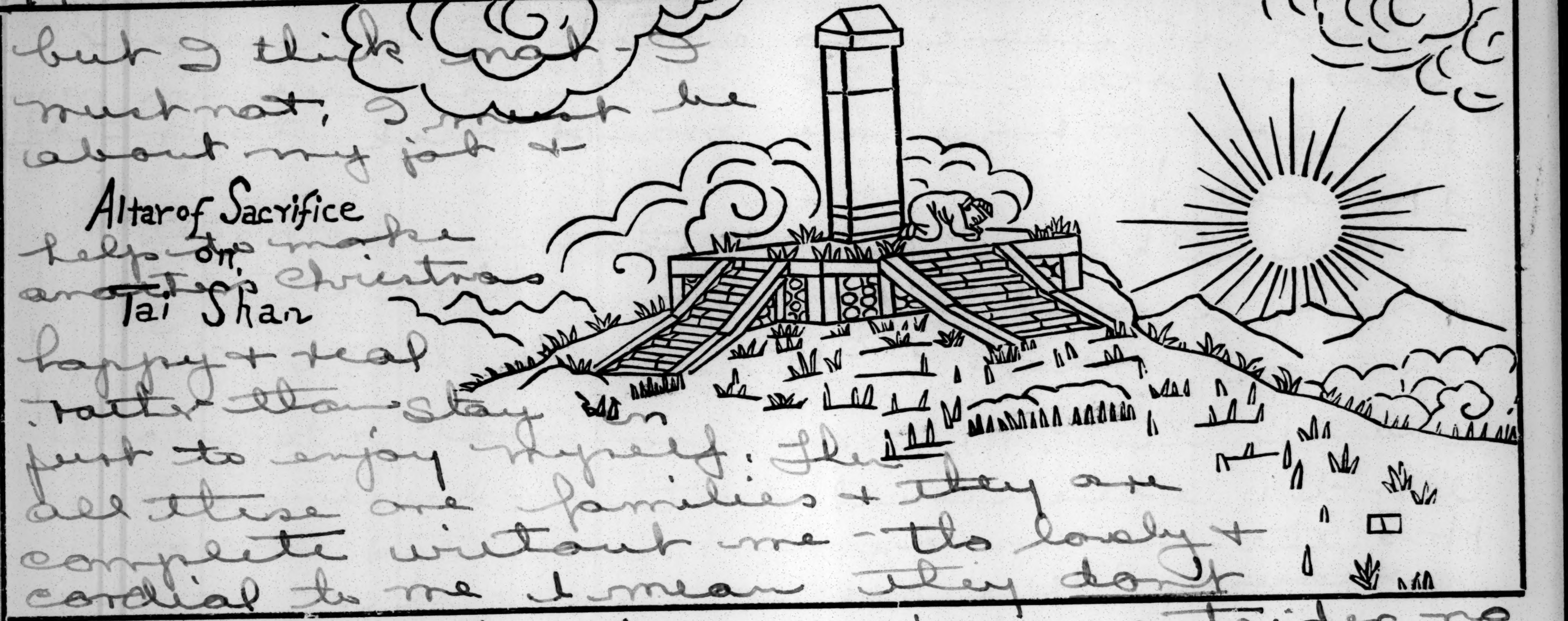
Altar of Sacrifice on Tai Shan

to be by mail & wheelbarrow again.

This time I expect Christmas won't be so festive as last year because that group is just beginning & have no students for singing etc. The day after Christmas we'll start for a 3-day trip up the seacoast N.W. to stay till last of January. That is such an inaccessible place - your mail may be delayed. I laughed at one of the elders from there. The plan was Miss Chou & Wang were to go later without me but a group there wanted to study John & finish it as we'd just gotten well started last June. I called this elder the "importunate widow" as at every meeting he just hounded us for a change - well he got it so I'll go now & they'll go too! Well, I'll enjoy going back for they are more advanced & can really study the Bible. Please do pray about them all. I hear of sounds of revival in Shantung & near here at Weihsien - We've had several places & just yesterday word has come of those at a local place by means of their own leaders just having a wonderful awakening & have gotten materials to built themselves a

8] church. How I praise God + ask for more such that is real + a revival from themselves not from an outsider going in to stir a flame + then go + leave it die down! The independent movements not dependent on foreign money + help are just the hope of our country work + all of China. Oh! I just long for more of such working of the Spirit. It is dependent on prayer alone + as Prov. 1:25 - 'turn at my reproof + I will pour out my Spirit' - perhaps too many do not turn, therefore have no outpouring of the Spirit.'

This is Sunday! This a.m. I slept late that is stayed in bed + had such glorious quiet time - reading M.B.I. Monthly + resting. There seems so little time for that sort of thing! Got up for dinner with Chandler's - Lydia came home + surely is an attractive girl - so pretty. She got in at 11:30 last night. Jane Conradt arrived at 4 - + she just could hardly wait for Lydia - They've been pals so long, + Jane is so different but all so sweet + attractive. These girls are just growing up + are surely a credit to the parents + they are justly proud of them. It has made it seem 'Christmasy' indeed. Wed. nite all missy group have a supper + party at Tewkesbury's + Thursday a white out-door Christmas in Anspach's yard + our station a dinner at Conradt's. They want me to stay in for it



but I think not - I
must not, I must be
about my job +
help to make
another's Christmas
happy + real
rather than stay on
just to enjoy myself: The
all these are families + they are
complete without me - tho lovely +
cordial to me I mean they don't
need me ~~and~~ after all I'm an outsider, no
matter how close, so I love to go to my
family - the Chinese girls + Christians + be
happy with them, If I can help them a
lit then I'm glad,
Erva writes she's enjoying Biblical Seminary
so much! Am so interested in their (her +
Martha's) impressions of just getting home!
(I see this is a repetition - sorry!)
My experience will soon be - Martha
says cars go too fast + drive all around
her, Both are fascinated with the stores!
Well, honey mine, I can hardly think
what it will be like to see you. I
think of our plans + Christmas away from
Bud + Bessie, Eula, Ray + boys will seem
queer, But spect's will not have enough
money to come home for it. The Etta is planing
on our being there from her last letter!
Even as I write these words they seem
unreal. Erva said as she got home to
near where all the family were to meet

her - her mouth went dry! I just can't believe it, There's so little time - to even plan & dream of it. I'll just be in near the last & have one grand rush to get off I know!

I wish I knew what the new folks of my family would like from China - Any special orders? If so get them in early! Church this P.M. Mr. Coonradt is to preach! Wonder where you'll be this Christmas? Has the unemployment affected Oregon seriously? We see so much of it! Mrs. Warner mentioned it too in her letter.

My! there is so much to Praise the Master for - How marvelous His love! I'm thinking tho how often we just think of the superficial blessings - was reading again Habakkuk's praise - tho the food fail & no cattle in the stall & at the end of self & all visible signs of God's presence - yet will I praise Him! Well, these years have meant much to me - full wonderful years - but still I feel so empty on my hands - May He be able to glorify Himself I ask & that's all - One, & by far not the least, of all I praise Him for is for you my precious family - I loves you all such heaps & you just means all to me, Christmas must be wonderful to Daddy dear - with Him.

Bye - Love -
Irene